

MasterCard
International



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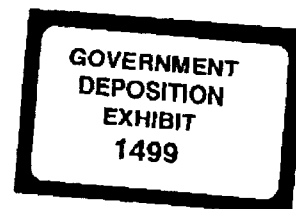
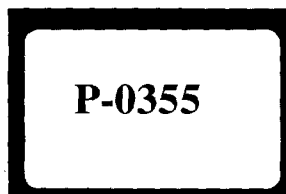


understanding YOUR options



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PLASTIC made simple

Which card should I pay with?

Credit cards usually are used for larger purchases. Consumers can pay for their purchases over time or make one payment when they receive a monthly statement.

How convenient is using the card?

Credit cards are universally accepted at 15 million locations around the world.

Consumers do not have to provide the merchant with any additional information when using a credit card.

When I use a card, when do I actually pay for my purchase?

Your total monthly credit card purchases are billed on a monthly statement and you can pay immediately or over a period of time.

Are there fees and/or interest rates for using the card?

Interest rates and fees vary depending on the bank that issues the card. Most credit cards do not charge interest when you pay off your monthly balance immediately.

A secured card offers a low credit limit and requires the cardholder to keep the amount of the credit limit on deposit at the issuing bank. There may be an annual fee for this kind of card.

How do I keep track of my spending?

Credit cards can help you consolidate bills. You receive one bill per month. The monthly statement allows you to analyze your monthly spending patterns.

What protections do I have if my card is lost or stolen?

Your maximum liability is \$50, if there is any unauthorized use of the card before it is reported lost or stolen. If the card is a MasterCard® card, there is no liability for unauthorized use, if you promptly report your card missing, in most circumstances.

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Debit Cards	Electronic Cash on Smart Cards
<p>Debit cards typically are used as substitutes for cash and checks, to pay for everyday items, including gasoline, groceries, restaurant meals, and department store purchases.</p>	<p>Electronic cash on smart cards lets consumers pay for small purchases, such as for parking meters, bus fares, laundry, or coffee, without having to search for bills and coins.</p>
<p>Debit cards are a safer alternative than carrying a lot of cash and more convenient than checks. Debit cards eliminate the common hassles associated with getting a check approved, such as having to provide personal information to a merchant.</p>	<p>Smart cards that store electronic cash and can be used for small transactions now are being issued around the world.</p>
<p>Debit cards with the MasterCard® logo are accepted for payment at the 15 million locations where the MasterCard logo is displayed. When you use a debit card with a MasterCard logo, your signature verifies that you are the cardholder.</p>	<p>No identification, signature, or payment authorization is required. The exact amount of the purchase is deducted from your smart card and no change is given.</p>
<p>Debit cards with the MasterCard® logo are accepted for payment at the 15 million locations where the MasterCard logo is displayed. When you use a debit card with a MasterCard logo, your signature verifies that you are the cardholder.</p>	<p>With a Mondex™ smart card, MasterCard's electronic cash card, you can check the balance remaining on the card by inserting the card into a specially equipped ATM or a personal balance reader that fits in the palm of your hand.</p>
<p>When you use a debit card with the Maestro® logo, your PIN number verifies purchases at the point of sale and cash withdrawals at ATMs.</p>	<p>You can put value onto your Mondex card using a specially equipped ATM, computer, or telephone, and value can be transferred from one card to another using a special wallet-like device. This card also has the capability to store up to five foreign currencies.</p>
<p>When you use a debit card with the Cirrus® logo, you can get cash using a PIN at an ATM machine that is part of the global MasterCard®/Cirrus® ATM Network.</p>	<p>At participating retail locations, the value of the purchase is deducted directly from the amount of electronic cash value that you have transferred from your deposit account to your smart card.</p>
<p>The funds for debit card transactions are deducted directly from your checking account.</p>	<p>There are no finance charges. You only can spend the amount of the cash value loaded on the card, which may help you stick to a budget.</p>
<p>You will not incur interest charges unless you dip into an overdraft line of credit tied to your checking account.</p>	
<p>Your bank may charge an annual, monthly, or per-transaction fee for using a debit card.</p>	
<p>Transactions are listed on your checking account statement, making it easier to track spending.</p>	<p>The Mondex smart card stores information about your last 10 transactions, including the date, the name of the retailer, and the transaction amount.</p>
<p>Your maximum liability for a debit card with the MasterCard logo is \$50, if you report loss, theft, or unauthorized use of the card within 24 hours of discovery. After this period, you will be liable for a maximum of \$50, in most circumstances.</p>	<p>A smart card is just like cash and, if you lose the card, it is just like losing cash.</p>
<p>If you report your Maestro or Cirrus card missing or stolen within two days of discovery, you are liable for a maximum of \$50. Between two days and up to 6 months, that amount rises to \$500. After that time, you could be liable for the amount deducted from your account.</p>	<p>Mondex smart cards can be locked using a personal security code. This locking feature provides some protection, in that only the real cardholder can use the card when it has been locked.</p> <p>When you download value to a Mondex smart card from an ATM machine, federal law may apply in the event of a dispute.</p>

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understanding your options

We all have our own spending needs and preferences. Maybe you prefer a credit card that gives you the option of paying a monthly balance off in full or over time.

If not, perhaps a debit card that is directly linked to your bank account is best for you.

Some consumers enjoy using the new smart cards that store cash right on the card. However, if you're like most consumers, you probably will find that soon you'll be using all three—and wake up one day to find that you can use one plastic card to make credit, debit, and electronic cash purchases!

Knowing how to choose the right cards will help you take advantage of the benefits they offer. Each works differently and has its own terms, fees, and protections, should the card be lost or stolen. The following explains their similarities and differences, so that you can get the most out of each.

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